

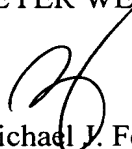
### REMARKS

The Examiner stated that claim 17 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, claim 17 has been so rewritten as independent claim 12 which renders claim 12 and all its dependent claims allowable. Additionally, new independent claims 18, 24, and 26 have been added reciting essentially the same limitations as does claim 12 albeit as an integrated circuit, method, and computer program product. Accordingly, claims 18, 24, and 26 and all of their dependent claims are also allowable for at least the reasons stated for claim 12 and its dependent claims.

### CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all pending claims are allowable. Should the Examiner believe that a further telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the undersigned can be reached at the telephone number set out below.

Respectfully submitted,  
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